

Amendments to the Claims

The following Listing of Claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended): A bookbinding system for binding sheets into bound text bodies having respective spines exposed for adhesive application and characterized by multiple length dimensions and multiple thickness dimensions, the system comprising:
a sheet collector configured to assemble a text body from multiple sheets; and
an adhesive dispenser positioned to receive an assembled text body from the sheet collector and configured to dispense across the thickness dimension of the a-text-body spine of the received text body solid sheet adhesive having one of multiple effective widths sized to correspond substantially to the length dimension of the ~~text-body~~ spine of the received text body.

Claim 2 (original): The system of claim 1, wherein the adhesive dispenser is configured to dispense multiple segments of solid sheet adhesive along the length dimension of the text body spine.

Claim 3 (original): The system of claim 2, wherein the adhesive dispenser is configured to dispense solid sheet adhesive segments of different widths.

Claim 4 (original): The system of claim 2, wherein the adhesive dispenser is configured to dispense solid sheet adhesive segments of the same width.

Claim 5 (original): The system of claim 2, wherein the adhesive dispenser is configured to dispense at least one solid sheet adhesive segment independently of the other solid sheet adhesive segments.

Claim 6 (original): The system of claim 5, wherein the adhesive dispenser comprises a roller system for dispensing the multiple segments of solid sheet adhesive.

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

Claim 7 (original): The system of claim 6, wherein the roller system comprises a drive shaft supporting multiple drive rollers.

Claim 8 (original): The system of claim 7, wherein the adhesive dispenser comprises a motor for driving the drive shaft, and a clutch disposed between a pair of drive rollers enables one or both drive rollers of the drive roller pair to be driven selectively by the motor.

Claim 9 (original): The system of claim 2, further comprising an adhesive quantity interrogator configured to obtain indications of the length of each solid sheet adhesive segment remaining in a plug-in cartridge housing.

Claim 10 (original): The system of claim 9, further comprising a controller configured to transmit a warning message when any of the solid sheet adhesive segments is nearly spent.

Claim 11 (original): The system of claim 2, wherein the adhesive dispenser is configured to dispense multiple segments of solid sheet adhesive along the length dimension of the text body spine simultaneously.

Claim 12 (original): The system of claim 2, wherein the adhesive dispenser is configured to dispense multiple segments of solid sheet adhesive along the length dimension of the text body spine sequentially.

Claim 13 (original): The system of claim 12, wherein the adhesive dispenser is configured to position a plug-in cartridge housing containing a roll of solid sheet adhesive at multiple locations along the length dimension of the text body spine.

Claim 14 (original): The system of claim 1, wherein the adhesive dispenser comprises a width cutter for cutting solid sheet adhesive to an effective width substantially corresponding to the length dimension of the text body spine.

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

Claim 15 (original): The system of claim 14, wherein the adhesive dispenser further comprises a length cutter for cutting the solid sheet adhesive to a length at least as large as the thickness dimension of the text body spine.

Claim 16 (original): The system of claim 15, wherein the adhesive dispenser is configured to advance the solid sheet adhesive beyond the location cut by the width cutter, and to cut across the solid sheet adhesive with the length cutter to prepare a clean leading edge for a subsequent sheet binding.

Claim 17 (original): The system of claim 14, wherein the adhesive dispenser comprises a waste reservoir configured to store excess solid sheet adhesive cut by the width cutter.

Claim 18 (canceled)

Claim 19 (canceled)

Claim 20 (canceled)

Claim 21 (currently amended): The system of claim 16, wherein the adhesive dispenser is configured to automatically advance the solid sheet adhesive beyond the location cut by the width cutter, and to automatically cut across the solid sheet adhesive with the length cutter to prepare a clean leading edge free of any cuts by the width cutter for a subsequent sheet binding.

Claim 22 (new): The system of claim 1, wherein the solid sheet adhesive dispensed by the adhesive dispenser comprises a hot melt adhesive, and further comprising a heater configured to melt the hot melt adhesive.

Claim 23 (new): The system of claim 22, further comprising a cover binder configured to attach a cover to the text body.

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

Claim 24 (new): The system of claim 1, wherein the adhesive dispenser is configured to automatically dispense the solid sheet adhesive across the thickness dimension of the spine of the received text body without manual assistance.

Claim 25 (new): The system of claim 15, wherein the length cutter is configured to automatically cut the solid sheet adhesive without manual assistance.

BEST AVAILABLE COPY